Times-Virginian

In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt

APPOMATTOX, VIRGINIA

ESTABLISHED 1892

Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Robinson . . *Editors & Publishers*

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Our Educationoal System

Admiral Hyman Rickover has performed a service beyond the bounds of military activities in warning the nation that our educational system is inferior to that being enjoyed in Russia today.

Rickover points out that the Europeans—and the Russians—are accomplishing more with their educational systems than we are. He says we should be able to give our young people in ten grades what they are now getting in twelve. This is being accomplished in Russia and in other countries.

He says we should limit the number of elective (crip) courses and see to it that every young American gets an adequate education in the important, vital fields in which the competition is so keen today. He says we should have a system whereby diplomas show just how proficent the graduate was.

Also, he say's we should not limit the progress of the brightest students by holoding them back to the pace of education of the slowest students. In other words, he favors a system whereby the best minds could move thead—to the fullest extent of their abilities.

He believes we are off the deep end on our athletic programs in our high schools and colleges. Instead of a program whereby sports is mainly the business of a few stars, and interest centers arounds the school's teams—playing other teams—Rickover says we should stress the physical condition of all students, as is done in Russia and othr countries.

He suggests, also, that our educational system is far too expensive on the college level. The best students should receive some kind of help—if they need it—to go on to college and utilize their talent. Rickover notes that this is done in Russia and other countries, and that a college education in the United States is more expensive than anywhere else in the world.

He also wants study programs coordinated or standards prescribed, and he suggests this be done on the college level.

Rickover is concerned because the Russians are graduating more scientists and scholars in the vital fields of learning than we are. He is also concerned with the physical fitness (or lack of it) among U. S. students. He warns, bluntly, that unless we make the necessary changes in our system, which might require a ten-month school year, and six days of school a week, and higher pay for teachers, we are in great danger of falling behind the Russians in the educational and professional fields.

This is a somber warning and one that has been made repeatedly by experts in the United States— the richest country in the world — is watching its major competitor pull steadily ahead in the field of education. Prompt steps are needed if this trend is to be altered.

Fifty-Five Years of Rotary

Appomattox does not have a Rotary Club. Before coming to Appomattox in 1931, the Editor of this newspaper was an active member of a flourishing Rotary Club, and so we are pleased to note that this fine civic organization, one of our major service clubs, has attained its fifty-fifth anniversary.

Rotary International was founded in 1905, by Paul P. Harris, a native of Wisconsin, but a resident of Chicago at that time. It has grown to its present status of having more than 8,000 clubs in 89 countries.

The name "Rotary" originally was intended to denote that fact that groups of businessmen meeting together would rotate the meetings at the place of business of each member. However, as the organization grew, this custom has been changed, and Rotary Clubs usually now meet in a permanent place.

However, this basic concept was followed during the years this Editor was a Rotarian. At each meeting, in rotation, a member was allowed ten minutes or more to discuss his business. And membership was limited to not more than two from any type business or professional career. In those years, the theme of Rotarianism was that fellowship and understanding among business and professional leaders in a community was a top project.

On its fifty-fifth anniversary, we salute the Rotary Clubs.

Socialism Moving Right?

All over the world there are indications that an abandonment of some of the principal concepts of socalism is taking place.

Although as yet this is confined to some of the intelligent socialist leaders, for the most part, it is significant. The best example of this trend can be seen in the behavior and statements of Hugh Gaitskill, head of the labor (Socialist) Party in Great Britain.

Recently, he has suggested that the Labor Party change its basic dogma, with a clear statement that the Labor Party does not intend to take over everything. This position —taken by the leader of the Labor Party—has caused a split in the Labor Party which has not been equalled in some thirty years.

The same process is taking place in Japan. A new party has been organized in Japan, and this group is not wiling to go as far, along the socialist road, as the traditional socialist in Japan.

In Germany, something of the same thing is afoot. The socialist party in West Germany has capitulated to the trend.

This series of developments —along with recent elections in Canada, the United States, and Great Britain, which showed that the voters were tending toward conservative policies, is influencing the thinking of politicians everywhere.

It even has its respercussions on the United States' political scene. There are those who believe that the result of this trend will make it inevitable that a moderate will win the 1960 Presidential election.

Whether these conclusions are justified and acurate, only time will tell. However, it seems that the day of the leftwingers is certainly not getting closer, but drawing farther away.

Farm Income Declines Again

The final figures for 1959 net income, for farmers, showed a sixteen per cent decline over 1958.

The decline was larger than had been expected, and larger than that predicted by the Department of Agriculture. Net income, which is that left to farmers after farm operations and payment of production costs, taxes, etc., is the guide by which farm prosperity is measured. In 1959, net income was $11,000,000,000, down from $13,100,000,000 in 1958.

The Department of Agriculture explained that the decline of income reflected a combination of things—a down-turn in farm prices, and a further upturn in farm production costs.

Because of the down-turn in farm prices, total cash receipts from farm marketing in 1959 were two per cent below the 1958 total.

The final figures for 1959 farming in the United States are certain to become a political issue in the months to come, and in the presidential election. The Department of Agriculture has been spending what is generally agreed to be large sums of money, and the Eisenhower Administration has spent more money on its farm program than was spent in behalf of a farm program for the preceding twenty years. Democrats are certain to stress the rather unimpressive results achieved by this large expenditure.

Health is something that is appreciated by those who need it most.

* * * *

There is never any scarcity of excuses for doing what you want to do.

* * *

You can go a long way in the world if you make it your business to mind your own business.

Quit advertising your busniess, and you invite your business to quit.

* * *

Few people who inquire about your health are interested in your symptoms.

* * *

Play safe—drive carefully.

Washington Notes

Marigold Favored

Representative Ayres (R., Ohio) has defected from the ranks of those who favor the carnation as the national flower. Now he's for the marigolod.

Ayers figured it this way at a news conference recently: "Since the marigold is not the flower of any state, Congress will not become involved in a states rights debate if the marigold is named our country's national flower."

On Joining I. D. A.

President Eisenhower has urged Congress to authorize the United States to join the International Development Association.

The association is an international cooperative venture in financing designed to help the less developed countries obtain needed capital which is unavailable through normal channels. It will be an adjunct of the International Bank.

Shipbuilding Subsidies

The Department of Commerce opposes any increase in the subsidies paid by the Government to build ships.

At present the Government pays up to 50 per cent of the cost of building a new cargo or passenger ship. A bill before the Senate would eliminate the 50 per cent limtiation.

But, in recent testimony, Under Secretary John J. Allen, Jr., said the Commerce Department opposes the bill.

Danish Royalty To Visit

The King and Queen of Denmark will pay a state visit to the United States in October.

The White House made the announcement recently that King Frederick and Queen Ingrid have accepted an invitation from President Eisenhower to come to this country early in that month.

Cultural Treaty Ratified

A 1950 cultural treaty was ratified by the Senate recently. The vote was 76 to 14.

Under the treaty, the United States agrees to lower trade barriers against incoming and outgoing educational, cultural and scientific materials.

KNOW THE WEATHER

By E. H. Sims

When is the weather our helper in making us alert?

One is more alert when under the influence of a high pressure system than during days and periods when the barometric pressure is low. This is an established fact.

It is true that the reaction of people to low barometric pressure varies. In most cases low pressure causes irritation, aching corns or depression. But some react in the opposite way and actually are gay or happy during a low pressure period just as people react differently to the influences of alcohol.

When the pressure is high, however, we are all more alert. This is the best selling time for salesmen, for students taking examinations, etc.

Whenever we hear an old man lambasting the youth of today, we wonder what kind of a child he was.

BLUE MOLD APPEARS IN GEORGIA BEDS

Blue mold, a devastating disease of tobacco when not controlled, has started its annual journey up toward Virginia from the Southland.

S. B. Fenne, plant pathologist at VPI, says blue mold was first spotted in January in a Georgia plant bed, and by mid-February was known to be present in at least a few beds in nine counties. Throughout the affected area, growers began dusting heavily with ferbam as soon as mold was reported, and are continuing the control program. [...] stands are excellent and [...] tinued use of fungicide [...] are good for plenty of [...]

Fenne says that Vir[...] ers should keep a clos[...] the disease and be rea[...] or dust. The Plant Di[...] ing Service will keep [...] formed, not only about [...] but about other disease[...]

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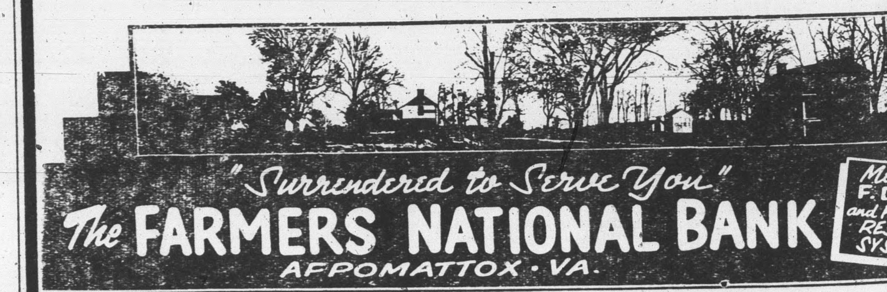

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[...]adline Set [...]r Wool [...]ayments

[...]mers have until April 30, 1960 [...]le applications for their incen[...] payments for wool and lambs during the 1959 marketing year [...] ends March 31, the Agricul[...] Stabilization and Conservation [...] has announced.

[...]SC County Committee Chair[...] C. D. Lewis reminds farmers [...] they must present properly exe[...] bills of sale at the time they [...] applications for payment at [...]SC office. This sales record for [...] wool must include the signa[...] of the buyer on the original, [...]ber of pounds sold, and the [...] amount of money received.

The sales slip for unshorn lambs sold, besides the name and signature of the buyer, must show the number of lambs and their liveweight, and bear the description "unshorn."

Mr. Lewis said that applications for wool payments made after April 30 will be accepted only if farmers show that the reason for late filing was due to conditions beyond their control. Such reasons must be acceptable to the ASC county committee.

1959 wool payments will be based on the average price producers received. Since this price will not be known until after June 1, payments to farmers will not comemnce until some time around July. The 1959 incentive price is 62 cents per pound.

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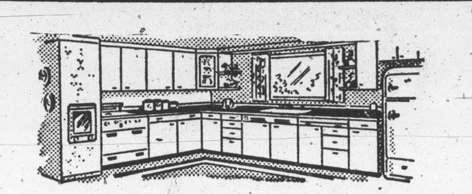

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THE BIBLE SPEAKS

International Uniform Sunday School Lessons

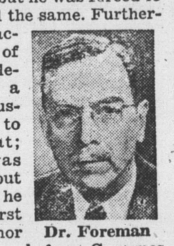
BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

Bible Material: Acts 24 through 26.
Devotional Reading: Matthew 10:16-25.

A Day In Court

Lesson for March 13, 1960

WHEN a prisoner appears in court heavily handcuffed and with a chain attached to him, it is a sign he is known as an escape artist. Maybe his nickname is Slippery Sam. Now Saint Paul was no Slippery Sam, but he was forced to wear chains all the same. Furthermore, he was accused chiefly of being a rabble-rouser. Even a real rabble-rouser doesn't like to be called that; and Paul was anything else but that. Yet there he was in court, first before Governor Felix, later on before Governor Festus and King Agrippa. The charges were flimsy, but the chains were solid.



Dr. Foreman

What could Paul do about it? Two things he would not do. He would not complain that he was there at all. He could have kept his mouth stubbornly shut, he could have said that an Apostle cannot rightfully be tried by a civil court. On the contrary, he recognized the legal right of the court to pass judgment on his case. Again, he could have "fixed" the court. We know that Governor Felix hoped for a bribe. Paul had wealthy friends and they could have arranged it. But Paul did not do that.

The Church in Court

Paul's situation may cast some light on the relation between the Christian church and the civil courts, or the civil government in general, in our day. This is a very tricky subject and the churches which we will be studying this lesson are not all agreed on the solution. But we can venture a few general thoughts. The church certainly can rule out what Paul ruled out. The church has no right to say, "The civil courts and the civil government have no jurisdiction over the Church of God." If any body of people anywhere has a high duty to comply with law and to submit to proper authorities, it is the church. Of course the church's beliefs, and its mode of operation, the appointment of its ministers, are its own affairs.

If the church must refuse temptations to stand outside the law, it must also be scrupulous not to influence law and law-makers by illegal means. This goes all the way from preachers who try to get their traffic-violation tickets "fixed", up to a great church that tries to get illegal tax reductions or exemptions.

What then can the church do? If it should not stay aloof from law and government, and if it cannot try to please the Felixes around the capital with bribes, direct or indirect, what can the Christian church do as it confronts the civil state?

Again it might take a leaf from Paul. He did try to influence the court; but it was open and above-board. He put his case truthfully, quietly, but persuasively. In all these trials the court was prejudiced against him at the start; but he always won a verdict of Not Guilty. What he had on his side were facts, and he presented those facts so that even skeptical judges were convinced.

Getting the Christian Case Heard

Here is something the church can do, or several things all combined. First, the Christian church needs to have, more than it sometimes does have, a clear understanding of what "Christian social ethics" means and is; that is to say, the church ought to have a clear and clearer understanding of what the Christian faith implies for social, business, educational and all other realms of life in modern society. Second, the church should be more aware than it is, of the moral side of proposed legislation; which is to say in simpler words,—the church should always be alert to ask, What is this law, this situation, going to do to people? The church that is not interested in persons and what affects them, is a long way removed from its Master. And third, the church, through as many of its members as are really interested, should keep governors, congressmen, senators, mayors and official boards, aware of the Christian viewpoint. Like Paul, the church needs to state the Christian position, to persuade by the highest method—the presentation of the truth.

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Released by Community Press Service.)

Six world swim records set by Australians.

Vera

Vera, March 7.- "Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we hath believed in Jesus Christ that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified." -Galacians 11-10.

Well, March is surely giving us the worst weather of all the winter. So much snow and cold.

Mrs. Wilson Scruggs was called to Richmond to see see her mother, Mrs. Ossie Ferguson, who has had a stroke. We do hope for her a speedy recovery.

Miss Nancy Scruggs spent the week-end in the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Harvey.

We are sorry to hear of the illness of Mr. Roland Ferguson, and we wish for him a speedy recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Harvey visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. O'Brien on Tuesday night.

We are sorry to hear that Mrs. Cliff Franklin got her house burned down on Friday. It is terrible weather to be burned out. They did not save anything.

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Harvey visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Watson on Saturday night.

We are sorry to hear that Mrs. Homer Reynolds has the mumps. We wish for her a speedy recovery.

We are sorry to hear of the passing of Mr. Charles Webb.

Miss Harriette Harvey visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Scruggs on Friday night.

When partners have to watch each other, the partnership, regardless of legal forms, is over.

Life, with some people, is a slow motion performance, waiting for the grim reaper to arrive.

General Assembly nears end of its 1960 session.

College football squads now having spring practice sessions.

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